

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

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SUBJECT Comments on the "Barka" Fishing Concern/Active  
Police Agents in Kolobrzeg/Security Precautions/  
Fishermen's Salaries/Deportations

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The 'Barka' Organization

2. "'Barka', the second largest fishing enterprise in Poland, with headquarters at Kolobrzeg, has a fishing monopoly in waters from Ustka to Swinoujscie. Its most important fishing grounds are Bornholm and Christiansund. The catch is sold to the Centrala Rybna firm which has the trade monopoly over fish.

3. "'Barka' owns about 110 fishing boats and employs about 300 fishermen. The office staff, however, is twice as large, which makes the fishermen critical of the incompetence of the management and its bureaucracy.

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4. "Among the active Communists in the 'Barka' firm is the chief politruk in Kolobrzeg. /fmu/ Pisarek

Among the fishermen,

are Jozef Drozdowski

and Mieczyslaw Sawicki,

Among the office staff,

Mrs Kowalska is an active Party

Her husband, a lieutenant, is the Militia commander of Kolobrzeg. The Party secretary of the firm is /fmu/ Molenda

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Prominent Kolobrzeg Police Agents

5. "Among the police agents operating in the town of Kolobrzeg are the following:

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JANKOWSKI, Czeslaw - Lieutenant in the WOP (Frontier Guards).

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ZALUSKI, Wladyslaw - Deputy motorman at the 'Barka' fishing enterprise

KISIEL, [fmu], 2nd Lt. - [ ] a Security Police member.

PREJSNAR, Jozef - [ ] from the village of Wysoka, in the district of Lancut, is now in the Army. A former guard of the steam mill in Albigowa 50X1-HUM

SMIELAK, Michal

### Port Security Precautions

6. "The harbor of Kolobrzeg is surrounded by a fence three meters high. It is out of bounds for people who have no special permission to work there. At the adjoining seashore, people are allowed to sit or bathe only at certain hours and not later than 10 p.m. Canoes may be used only with special permission and the owner may paddle only near the shore. Yachts and sloops may be used in certain areas. The owners must belong to the local sports club and hold a sailing permission from the WOP (Frontier Guards), to whom they have to present a list of their crew. Yacht and sloop owners are also forbidden to go far out to sea; they must always be visible from the shore.
7. "The harbor itself is controlled by WOP patrols who walk around it in pairs. In the small 'fishing harbor' of Kolobrzeg, three patrols with two soldiers in each, watch over the harbor simultaneously. They are armed with so-called 'pepesze' or 'Polewoj Palemet Szaszkina', a Soviet sub-machine gun.
8. "'Barka' has to send regularly to the local WOP a list of boats putting out to sea and the names of the crew members. This is done before the boats sail. The list is used for searching and controlling the fishing boats before their trips. The control is usually carried out by three to four soldiers under the command of an NCO and can take from 15 minutes to several hours.
9. "In order to make escape abroad impossible, fishermen are permitted to take with them only 5 zlotys in cash, their working clothes, and enough food and cigarettes for the duration of the trip. When at sea, fishermen are forbidden to contact fishing boats belonging to other nations, and they have to sail in groups, with each crew made responsible for the others. Formerly, WOP patrols were sent out on board some fishing boats to control the fishermen while at sea, but this has now been stopped because last year a WOP sea patrol forced a fishing cutter on which it was sailing to go to Sweden, enabling the patrolmen to escape. The fishermen heard about this escape, not through the Polish press which did not publish anything about it, but through foreign radio stations.
10. "Nowadays, when [ ] ships enter the port of Kolobrzeg, they are guarded by WOP patrols, and their crew members are not allowed to move freely when they go ashore. [ ] seamen are not permitted to have Polish currency, nor to bring a single pack of cigarettes ashore. At one time, a [ ] vessel in port was thoroughly searched because it was reported that one of the seamen had Polish currency with him. [ ] seamen are heckled while ashore in Kolobrzeg. They are not allowed to talk to local people when visiting dancing halls, and they are not allowed to fraternize with Poles at all. A Polish sailor who was seen fraternizing [ ] at a restaurant was warned by a WOP sergeant not to talk [ ] another time. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

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Wage Scale for Fishermen

11. "An apprentice fisherman working for the 'Barka' fishing enterprise gets a salary of 300 Zlotys a month, plus a small percentage of the price of the catch. A regular fisherman gets 380 zl monthly and 2.5 per cent of the price of the catch. A senior fisherman gets 480 zl a month and 3.8 per cent. The average income of the skipper of a fishing boat is 1,100 zl a month. This includes his regular pay of 600 zl plus 4.2 per cent of the price of the catch.
12. "Last year, the financial situation of the fishermen was much better. The firm then took 50 per cent of the value of the catch, and the other 50 per cent was divided among the fishermen after the cost of their food and fuel had first been deducted. In a very good month, a fisherman could earn then up to 3,500 zl, calculated according to the new currency regulations. This means that present incomes are only one-third of what they used to be.
13. "Even last winter, the incomes of the fishermen were beginning to go down. A fisherman could earn a salary of 750 zl at the maximum. At one time, during an especially good season, fishermen used to be able to earn 10,500 zl a month each. Nowadays, a good season means 1,200 zl at the most. (A motorman now earns a maximum of 1,500 zl as a result of the new collective bargaining system which went into effect last August. Previously, he sometimes earned as much as 300,000 zl in the old currency.)
14. "Incomes of fishermen are also less nowadays due to the fact that when they are made to put out to sea several days in succession and on holidays, they are not given any extra rewards. They are paid their regular salaries and the usual percentage of the value of the catch. On 1 May 51, the fishermen were made to put out to sea and work the entire day without being rewarded at all.
15. "There has been quite a lot of sabotage as a result of such exploitation of the fishermen. This spring, for instance, a model net was made 60 feet long. It was tested and found excellent for catching fish, and as a result it was decided that it should be sent to Leningrad for the First of May exhibition. However, it never got there since somebody destroyed it, cutting it into very small pieces, the night before it was going to be shipped to the USSR. The UB looked for the culprit but never found him.

Deportations

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16. [REDACTED]
17. "In September 1950, 24 families living in Kolobrzeg were ordered to leave the 30 kilometer frontier zone. So far, 50 families have been ordered to leave Kolobrzeg, among them 12 fishermen's families. Among those who were expelled from the sea town, was an old woman who lived at Sobieski Street whose husband was working inland. She was seriously ill when the UB arrived with orders for her expulsion, and was unable to move. A neighbor of hers knowing her serious condition pleaded with the police to leave her alone, but only got the cynical reply of 'Her place is in the churchyard'."

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